



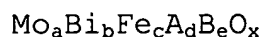
fibers are at least one selected from glass fibers, alumina fibers, silica fibers and carbon fibers, and have an average fiber length of from 50 $\mu$ m to 1.5mm and an average fiber diameter of from 2 $\mu$ m to 20 $\mu$ m.

8. (New) The process of claim 7, wherein the catalyst comprises inorganic fibers selected from glass fibers, alumina fibers, silica fibers and carbon fibers having an average fiber length of from 50 $\mu$ m to 1.5mm and an average fiber diameter of from 2 $\mu$ m to 20 $\mu$ m.

9. (New) The process of claim 8, wherein the catalyst contains from 0.01 to 30% by weight, based on the weight of the catalyst, of inorganic fibers.

10. (New) The process of claim 9, wherein the ring-shaped body has an outer diameter of 3-10mm, an inner diameter that is 0.1-0.7 times the outer diameter, and a length that is 0.5-2 times the outer diameter.

11. (New) The process of claim 10, wherein the catalyst composition is expressed by the general formula



wherein Mo is molybdenum; Bi is bismuth; Fe is iron; A is at least one element selected from nickel and cobalt; B is at least one element selected from alkali metal elements, alkaline earth metal elements, thallium, phosphorus, tellurium, antimony, tin, cerium, lead, niobium, manganese, arsenic, zinc, silicon, aluminum, titanium, zirconium, and tungsten; O is oxygen; a, b, c, d, e and x stand for the respective atomic numbers of Mo, Bi, Fe, A, B and O, where a is 12, b is 0.1-10, c is 0.1-20, d is 2-20, e is 0-30 and x is a numerical value determined by the extent of oxidation of the other elements.